

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

II. Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A lamp shade for moving between a collapsed position and an extended position, comprising:

an upper ring;

a ring assembly;

a shade cover disposed between the upper ring and the ring assembly; and

a support comprising a first cross-member, a second cross-member, and a shaft linking the first cross-member with the second cross-member a shaft and a pair of curved cross-members, wherein in the extended position, the first cross-member of the support engages the upper ring and the second cross-member of the support engages the ring assembly in an interference fit, stretching the shade cover taut.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the second ring assembly comprises an inner ring and an outer ring connected together to define a groove for receiving one of the cross-members.

Claim 3 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 2 wherein the inner ring is not in the same plane as the outer ring.

Claim 4 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 1 further comprising an attachment means for attaching the lamp shade to a lamp.

Claim 5 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the support has a pair of shafts extending between the cross-members.

Claim 6 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the first cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the upper ring.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the second cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the ~~lower~~ ring assembly.

Claim 8 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the shaft is curved.

Claim 9 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the shaft is straight.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A lamp shade for moving between a collapsed position and an extended position, comprising:

an upper ring;

a ring assembly comprising an inner ring and an outer ring connected together to define a an annular groove between the inner ring and the outer ring;

a shade cover disposed between the upper ring and the ring assembly; and

a support comprising a first cross-member, a second cross-member, and a shaft linking the first cross-member with the second cross-member a shaft and a pair of curved cross members, wherein in the extended position, the first cross-member engages the upper ring and the second cross-member is retained within the annular groove in an interference fit, the interference fit being defined by the tension provided by the shade cover the support engages the upper ring and the groove defined by the ring assembly in an interference fit, stretching the shade cover taut.

Claim 11 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the inner ring is not in the same plane as the outer ring.

Claim 12 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 further comprising an attachment means for attaching the lamp shade to a lamp.

Claim 13 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the support has a pair of shafts extending between the cross-members.

Claim 14 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the first cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the upper ring.

Claim 15 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the second cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the lower ring assembly.

Claim 16 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the shaft is curved.

Claim 17 (Original): The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the shaft is straight.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A method for extending a collapsible lamp having a shade cover disposed between an upper ring and a ring assembly, comprising:

providing a support ~~comprising a shaft and a pair of curved cross members;~~
~~engaging retaining one end of the support within an annular groove formed in the ring assembly~~
~~with the support between an inner ring and an outer ring;~~
rotating the support until it engages the upper ring, thereby stretching the shade cover taut; and
retaining the support between the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit defined by the tension provided by the shade cover.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A support for a collapsible lamp having a shade cover disposed between an upper ring and a ring assembly, comprising:

a shaft;
a pair of curved cross-members attached to the shaft, wherein in an extended position of the lampshade, the support engages the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit, the interference fit being defined by the tension provided by the shade cover.

Claim 20 (Original): The support of claim 19 further comprising a second shaft extending between the cross-members.

Claim 21 (Original): The support of claim 19 wherein the first cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the upper ring.

Claim 22 (Original): The support of claim 19 wherein the second cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the lower ring assembly.

Claim 23 (Original): The support of claim 19 wherein the shaft is curved.

Claim 24 (Original): The support of claim 19 wherein the shaft is straight.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A ring assembly for a collapsible lamp having a shade cover disposed between an upper ring and the ring assembly, comprising:

an inner ring and an outer ring connected together to define a groove for receiving a support to engage the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit ~~to stretch the shade cover taut wherein the interference fit is defined by the tension provided by the shade cover.~~

Claim 26 (Original): The ring assembly of claim 25 wherein the inner ring is not in the same plane as the outer ring.